

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

In the present invention, the term “cell isolation” refers to the separation of B cells from a cell population comprising mixtures of heterogeneous cells. The “cell isolation” of the present invention includes isolation of cells harboring antibody ~~antigen~~ genes when they coexist with other cells that do not carry an antibody gene. For example, as shown in the Examples, carrier cells that are clearly incapable of producing antibodies may be added to the ~~antigen~~ antibody-producing cells. Carrier cells are added to facilitate the extraction of target mRNAs. That is, even if only a limited number of antibody-producing cells are coexisting with other cells which do not carry antibody genes, these antibody-producing cells can be said to be in an isolated state.